

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4483
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2003
INCREASE IN CARGO
RAMDAS ATHAWALE

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the target set and actual increase registered in air cargo handling at major airports during each of the last three years;
- (b) the reasons for the decline therein;
- (c) the targets set in this regard for the next five years;
- (d) the steps being taken to expand and strengthen basic services to deal with the increasing air cargo; and
- (e) the amount of investment required to strengthen these services over the next five years?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK)

- (a) During the last three years, at metro airports the target set were 491.71 in 2000-01, 526.78 in 2001-02 and 564.36 in 2002-03 (in thousand Metric Tonnes). The target achieved during these years are 491.71, 488.34 and 549.43 (upto February 2003) in thousand Metric Tonnes respectively.
- (b) The decline for the year 2001-2002 is due to the after effects of attack on World Trade Centre on 11.9.2001.
- (c) The target set for the next five years from 2003-04 to 2007-08 are 604.63, 647.79, 694.05, 743.61 and 796.75 (in thousand Metric Tonnes) respectively.
- (d) The steps taken for modernisation of cargo handling facilities at the airports are that at Mumbai, the State-of-the-art centre for perishable cargo has been constructed for processing of perishable cargo. At Delhi, works regarding expansion of Import Cargo Terminal, installation of second Elevated Transfer Vehicle (ETV) with stacker system and creation of an area for handling of courier / express bags have been completed. At Chennai, Integrated Cargo Terminal for handling of export cargo with provision of modern ETV has been constructed. At Kolkata there are plans for construction of Integrated Cargo Terminal for import and export cargo and state-of-the-art centre for perishable cargo. Besides there are plans for provision of Electronic Data Interchange (EDI), connectivity through internet for on-line cargo transaction between AAI and its trade partners and implementation of Automatic Data Capturing System namely Bar Code System in the cargo handling activities.
- (e) AAI has proposal to invest Rs.99.16 crore to strengthen the infrastructure at four metro airports.